

**STATE OF ILLINOIS  
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

Meeting of the Commission  
December 12, 2012  
11:00 a.m.

James R. Thompson Center  
Murdock Room - IDHS  
Suite 5-300  
100 West Randolph Street  
Chicago, IL 60601

and

Lincoln Land Training Center  
130 W. Mason Street  
Room 104  
Springfield, Illinois

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:**

**Commissioners**

In Chicago

Chairman Martin R. Castro  
Marti Baricevic  
Robert A. Cantone  
David Chang  
Terry Cosgrove  
Merri Dee  
Nabi Fakroddin  
Rozanne Ronen  
David J. Walsh  
Patricia Bakalis Yadgir  
Diane M. Viverito

Absent

Marylee V. Freeman

**Staff**

Keith N. Chambers  
Michael J. Evans  
LaNade Bridges  
Donyelle L. Gray  
Evelio Mora  
Christine Welninski

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**Members of Public:**       None

**NOTICE:**

Public and closed meetings of the Illinois Human Rights Commission are audio recorded.

**I.       Call to Order**

On December 12, 2012, at 11:00 a.m., Chairman Martin R. Castro called to order a meeting of the Illinois Human Rights Commission.

Pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/1 et seq., it was determined that:

- 1) A quorum of the public body was present at the meeting. Prior to the meeting, Commissioner Freeman gave notice (and good cause as defined by the Illinois Open Meetings Act) to the General Counsel and Secretary of the Public Body, Donyelle Gray, that she would be unable to attend the December 12, 2012 meeting.

**II.      Consideration of Minutes**

November 28, 2012

The Commission voted to approve the minutes of the November 28, 2012, meeting as submitted by staff. Motion to approve the minutes made by Commissioner Cosgrove and seconded by Commissioner Nabi. Motion carried 11-0.

**III.     Chairman's Report**

*Martin R. Castro, Chairman*

Chairman Castro gave a report on the updated Bully Prevention Bill. The Chairman reported that S.B. 641 has come up before the General Assembly. The Bill is identical to previous Bills on Bullying and the Chairman asked the Commission to support the new Bill. The Commission voted to support the new Bill. Motion made by Commissioner Cosgrove and seconded by Commissioner Nabi. Motion carried 11-0 in favor. The Chairman will draft a press release in support of the Bill.

The Chairman also reported that he spoke to Senator Munoz, Chairman of the Executive Appointments Committee, about the Commission's budget. The Chairman will meet with Senator Munoz in the near future along with the Hispanic Caucus to discuss support for the Commission's budget.

#### **IV. Staff Reports**

*A. N. Keith Chambers, Executive Director*

Mr. Chambers discussed the Commission's legislative budget advocacy proposal. Mr. Chambers reviewed the updated grid based on recent elections.

Mr. Chambers discussed HRC "Talking Points" submitted at the previous meeting. Mr. Chambers condensed the Talking Points and would be distributing the Talking Points on HRC letterhead to legislators.

Mr. Chambers also discussed Lobby Day Consideration dates. The dates offered were February 6, 2013, which is the Governor's State of the State speech. The second date was March 13, 2013, which is the date of the Governor's budget speech.

Mr. Chambers requested that the Commissioners inform him of which date they preferred for the Lobby Day.

A suggestion was made that the Commission could consider scheduling the February or March *En Banc* meeting in Springfield.

Mr. Chambers gave an update on the status of the Commission's Annual Report, and he requested the Commissioners' feedback and comments on the latest draft.

Chairman Castro suggested that more photos of staff be included in the Report instead of stock photos.

*B. Dr. Ewa I. Ewa, Chief Fiscal Officer*

Dr. Ewa reported that there were no new developments with the budget. The veto session did not resolve issues with the Torture Commission or the filling of Commission staff vacancies.

Dr. Ewa reported that union pay increases for staff will not happen until authorization is given by the Office of Budget and Management.

*C. Michael J. Evans, Chief Administrative Law Judge*

Judge Evans submitted the Administrative Law Section's statistics for the month of November 2012.

Judge Evans advised the Commission that the Commission is down two Administrative Law Judges. Judge Evans further advised the Commission that if there is an increase in case filings in the Administrative Law Section, problems may arise in processing the cases.

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*D. Donyelle L. Gray, General Counsel*

Ms. Gray reminded those Commissioners who had to complete their Open Meetings Act training, that they had to do so by the end of this calendar year.

**V. Petitions for Rehearing En Banc**

**A.** *Doreen Ford v. Hanson Peters Nye*

Charge No.: 2005CF0212

ALS No.: 07-019

The Commission voted to deny the Petition. Motion made by Chairman Castro seconded by Commissioner Cantone. Motion carried 11-0.

**B.** *Fernando Valladares v. Bob Chinn's Crabhouse*

Charge No.: 2005CF3353

ALS No.: 07-011

The Commission voted to deny the Petition. Motion made by Chairman Castro, seconded by Commissioner Walsh. Motion carried 11-0.

**VI. New Business**

None

**VII. Unfinished Business**

None

**VIII. Executive Session**

None.

**IX. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m. Motion made by Chairman Castro, seconded by Commissioner Nabi. Motion carried 11-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Donyelle L. Gray  
General Counsel